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REMARKS:

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Reconnaissance Office

THROUGH: Deputy Director for Research, CIA

SUBJECT: Technical Evaluation of Satellite Photographic
Reconnaissance Materials

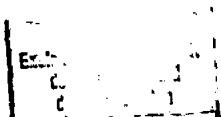
- REFERENCES:**
- (a) Memorandum from Under Secretary of the Air Force to Mr. R. M. Missall, Jr., dated 3 Nov 61; Subject: Establishment of a Standing Group for the Technical Evaluation of Satellite Reconnaissance Photography (D-2016)
 - (b) Memorandum from Under Secretary of the Air Force to Deputy Director (Plans), dated 11 Jan 62 (D-2007)
 - (c) Memorandum for the Record from Lt. Col. C.E. Jones, dated 23 Jan 62; Subject: Minutes of 23 Jan Meeting on Criteria for Film Evaluation (D-2018)
 - (d) [] Cable (IN 39952), dated 21 Jun 62
 - (e) [] Cable (IN 40881), dated 23 Jun 62
 - (f) [] Cable (IN 43338), dated 21 Jul 62
 - (g) [] Cable (IN 43666), dated 24 Jul 62

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1. The requirements set forth in reference (f) for a technical photographic evaluation of satellite photographic materials have been reviewed. This evaluation can be divided into three areas in support of all recipients as follows:

- a. Operations support (payload and vehicle performance)
- b. Photographic performance
- c. Processing evaluation

2. Experience has shown that to effect a meaningful evaluation the analysis must be performed on the original negatives. It is



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anticipated that all original negatives will be held in final repository at NPIC, thus permitting their use in production of specialized services of common concern and availability as reference material for future evaluations as required.

3. It is mandatory that all those involved in the evaluation have appropriate operational clearances. An evaluation based on what is observed on the original film without the operational clearances (therefore without detailed knowledge and access to information as to what may have caused the anomaly or phenomenon observed) could result only in a report of minimal usefulness.

4. To provide information in support of future operations and processing, the high frequency of missions planned require that emphasis be placed on a rapid response with high technical standards maintained. A time for report preparation of three weeks after receipt of the original film has been proposed in reference (f).

5. It is recommended that subsequent technical film evaluations on all satellite missions be accomplished at NPIC for the following reasons:

- a. Availability of the original film at NPIC is required.
- b. An NPIC report would reflect the combined talents of the contractor representatives (Lockheed, Itak, and Eastman Kodak, etc.) as well as such other technicians as may be necessary from the intelligence community. NPIC can provide a nucleus of experienced technicians that have been preparing film evaluations.
- c. Operational clearances and experience in operational aspects of photographic collection are available.
- d. The central location with respect to the intelligence community is invaluable for joint participation.
- e. It is necessary to have available analytic photogrammetric support to help assess effects of vehicle performance on photographic quality.
- f. Operational information is available. NPIC receives or should receive all pertinent operational cables and camera information.
- g. NPIC has, in the past, prepared and published camera technical data. This data is required for any evaluation.

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h. Space can be made available.

i. Equipment is on board or can be procured.

6. It is hoped that a discussion on this important subject can be held the week of 12 August. I will ask [redacted] to contact the NRO Staff with regard to convening a meeting between members of the NRO Staff and NPIC representatives at some mutually acceptable time.

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ARTHUR C. LUNDHAL
Director

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NPIC/OD:ACL [redacted] (6 Aug 62)

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